

WE CLAIM:

1. A knife comprising:

a handle including a first side and a second side, the first side removably coupled to the second side;

a blade removably secured to the handle and rotatable about a pivot point between an open position and a closed position; and

a manually-releasable fastening device disposed on the handle adapted to secure the first side to the second side and to secure the blade to the handle.

2. The knife of claim 1, wherein said manually-releasable fastening device is disposed about the pivot point.

3. The knife of claim 1, wherein the fastening device includes a manipulable knob and a retention post.

4. The knife of claim 3, wherein the manipulable knob includes friction grips.

5. The knife of claim 3, wherein the blade has a tang including an inlet adapted to engage the retention post of the fastening device

6. The knife of claim 5, wherein the inlet includes a receptacle adapted to engage the retention post of the fastening device.

7. The knife of claim 1, wherein the first side and the second side are releasably coupled via a connector.

8. A knife comprising:

a handle including a first side and a second side;

a blade removably secured to the handle, wherein the blade is adapted to be disposed in an open position and a closed position; and

a manually-releasable fastening device adapted to releasably engage the handle and the blade, wherein release of the fastening device enables removal of the blade from the handle and separation of the first side from the second side.

9. The knife of claim 8, wherein said manually-releasable fastening device is disposed about the pivot point.

10. The knife of claim 8, wherein release of the fastening device enables rotation of the first side relative to the second side disengaging the first side from the second side.

11. The knife of claim 8, wherein the manually-releasable fastening device includes a knob and a retention post.

12. The knife of claim 11, wherein the knob includes friction grips.

13. The knife of claim 11, wherein the blade has a tang including an inlet adapted to engage the retention post of the manually-releasable fastening device.

14. The knife of claim 13, wherein the retention post has a neck and a base and the blade has a tang including a slot that terminates in a receptacle sized to engage the base of the retention post.

15. The knife of claim 10, wherein first side and the second side include a connector adapted to release the first side from the second side when the first side and second side are in a rotated position.

16. A knife comprising:

a handle including a first side and a second side, the first side removably fastened to the second side;

a blade removably secured to the handle where the blade is rotatable about a pivot point between an open position in which the blade extends away from the handle and a closed position in which the blade is at least partially received within the handle; and

a manipulable fastening device disposed on the handle substantially adjacent to the pivot point adapted to removably secure the blade to the handle and removably secure the first side to the second side.

17. The knife of claim 16, wherein release of the fastening device enables rotation of the first side from the second side disengaging the first side from the second side.

18. The knife of claim 16, wherein the blade has a tang including an inlet adapted to engage and secure a retention post of the fastening device.